

media release



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For immediate release

Reading is as easy as the 'ABC'

ABC TV News and 612 ABC Brisbane presenters will be getting back to basics reading children's books as special guests at the 'Readings by the River' program for the Out of the Box Festival this month.

Queensland ABC News presenter, Karina Carvalho, has been reading the headlines for eight years and is looking forward to a lighter 'bulletin'. She'll be reading popular picture book, *Room on the Broom*.

"I'm used to reading to adults every night, but I'm looking forward to meeting some younger ABC viewers," she said.

612 ABC Brisbane's Steve Austin and Emma Griffiths have had plenty of practice with children of their own, so attendees will be in good hands.

"I'll be reading *Tiddler* by Julia Donaldson which is a favourite with my two kids," Emma said.

Rain, hail or shine, Jenny Woodward loves a good book. The ABC TV News weather presenter was quite the bookworm growing up.

"I used to read in quiet corners, under the covers with a torch, indeed any place I could find so I could finish that book and start the next one. I still read anywhere and anytime I get the chance," she said.

Every day during the Out of the Box Festival, well known personalities, authors and creators will share their favourite books with children by the river to encourage the development of literacy, communication and language skills in a gentle yet fun environment.

The festival aims to inform and inspire babies, children, parents, grandparents, care-givers, clinicians and teachers. It is built on the simple foundation that children matter and that arts-rich experiences lead to a sense of unfolding discovery in children and adults alike.

'Readings by the River' runs from 21-28 June at the Cultural Forecourt in South Bank. Entry is free and all are welcome.

- 612 ABC Brisbane Drive presenter, Emma Griffiths 10am Tuesday 21st June - *Tiddler* by Julia Donaldson
- ABC News presenter, Karina Carvalho 11:30am Tuesday 21st June - *Room on the Broom* by Julia Donaldson
- ABC TV News weather presenter, Jenny Woodward 1 pm Thursday 23rd June— *The Lorax* by Dr Seuss
- 612 ABC Brisbane's Mornings presenter, Steve Austin 12pm Monday 27th June - *65 Storey Treehouse* by Andy Griffiths.

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